Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Persons who are blind or have a severe vision problem who are first-class citizens who come from all walks of life; and,

WHEREAS, Persons who are blind or have a severe vision problem travel from their homes to work, to church, to shopping centers, to school, to visit friends, to social functions, to doctors, in fact to all activities of life; and,

WHEREAS, Persons who are blind or have a severe vision problem have had training and thus learned alternative skills to make them independent and responsible citizens of their communities; and,

WHEREAS, Persons who are blind or have a severe vision problem have had training for mobility purposes in the use of the White Cane or the guide dog; and,

WHEREAS, All states have a White Cane Law which requires drivers of vehicles to come to a complete stop when he/she observes a person who is using a White Cane or a guide dog while crossing a thoroughfare; and,

WHEREAS, October 15 is observed nationally as White Cane Day; and,

WHEREAS, The South Dakota Association for the Blind reminds us that the user of the White Cane or the guide dog has the right-of-way:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 15, 1989, as

WHITE CANE DAY

in South Dakota and, furthermore, I ask that all drivers of vehicles obey the South Dakota White Cane Law which has been in effect for over forty years. By obeying the White Cane Law, we will make our beloved state a safer place for both the driver and the pedestrian. Furthermore, I ask that this proclamation be displayed wherever possible by public and private organizations and agencies, churches, schools, news media, and businesses so all persons will be aware of the White Cane Law and Day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of September, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Nine

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

JOYCE HAZELTINE, SECRETARY OF STATE